

Application No. 10/829,253
Amendment dated August 21, 2008
Reply to Office Action of April 23, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device for manually operating a normally motor-operated closure between open and closed positions, the device comprising a support structure supporting a shaft, a driving member mounted to said shaft and axially displaceable in translation therewith between an idle position and an operational position wherein the driving member is operatively coupled to the closure, and a manual actuator directly fixedly mounted secured to the shaft in direct rotational driving engagement therewith for first displacing said driving member from said idle position to said operational position and then driving said driving member in order to displace the closure, the manual actuator being locked in rotational engagement with the shaft at all times, a cam disposed along said shaft, a cam engaging member running on a cam surface of the cam in response to a rotation of the shaft by said manual actuator to displace the driving member from said idle position to said operational position, said cam engaging member being mounted to said shaft separately from said manual actuator and at a distance therefrom, and a clutch for preventing rotation of one of said cam and said cam engaging member while the shaft is axially slid between said idle and operational position, the manual actuator driving the shaft in rotation throughout the travel of said driving member between said idle and operational positions, wherein said manual actuator is selectively fixedly mountable at either end portions of said shaft irrespectively of the position of said driving member on said shaft, and wherein said shaft is axially displaced relative to said support structure together with the driving member between said idle and operational positions by said manual actuator.

2. (Original) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 1, wherein said manual actuator is structurally isolated from said driving member, and wherein said manual actuator acts on said driving member via said shaft.

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3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 1, wherein said manual actuator includes a pulley fixed to said shaft.

6. (Previously presented) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 1,, wherein a biasing member acts on said shaft to urge said driving member to said idle position thereof.

7. (Original) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 1, wherein said biasing member includes a spring mounted about the shaft between the support and a collar fixed on the shaft.

8. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 1, wherein a the cam engaging member is mounted for rotation withdirectly rotatably secured to the shaft;
said cam engaging member being movable along a cam surface for moving said driving
member between said idle position and said operational position.

9. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 8, wherein said cam is mounted to said shaft, and wherein a clutch acts on said cam to temporarily retain said cam against rotation to allow said manual actuator to axially displace said driving member from said idle position to said operational position, the cam being fixed to the shaft.

10. (Original) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 9, wherein said clutch includes a spring blade extending about the cam to exert a radial friction thereon.

11. (Original) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 9, wherein said driving member includes a gear fixedly mounted to said shaft for rotational and axial movement therewith.

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12. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 11, wherein said cam engaging member is mounted to a pin used for mounting said gear to said shaft.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 13, wherein the shaft is axially displaced through the interaction between the cam and the cam engaging member against a biasing force of a biasing member.

15. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device for manually operating a normally motor-operated closure between open and closed positions, comprising a support, a shaft mounted to said support for axial and rotational movement, a driving member mounted to said shaft for joint movement therewith, said driving member being movable between an idle position and an operational position wherein the driving member is operatively coupled to the closure, a manual actuator permanently directly rotatably connected in direct driving relationship with the shaft for driving said shaft in rotation, a cam and a cam engaging member running on said cam, the cam engaging member being mounted to the shaft independently from said manual actuator, one of said cam and said cam engaging member being fixedly secured to the shaft and rotating therewith, the cam engaging member and the cam move relative to one another when the shaft rotates and displace the shaft axially together with the driving member towards the operational position thereof, displacing said shaft with said driving member as a result of a rotation imparted to said shaft by said manual actuator, and a clutch for temporarily drivingly disconnecting said shaft from one of said cam and said cam engaging member while allowing both said cam and said cam engaging member to rotate with the shaft once said driving member assumes said operational position thereof.

16. (Currently amended) An auxiliary operating device as defined in claim 15, wherein said cam and said cam engaging member are mounted to said shaft independently of said manual actuator at a distance therefrom along said shaft.